

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

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16

ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07

L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06

IO-11 AID-05 OMB-01 /080 W

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R 160545Z MAR 76

FM AMEMBASSY MUSCAT

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1920

INFO AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

C O N F I D E N T I A L MUSCAT 0291

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PDIP MU KE

SUBJECT: OMAN AND KENYA ESTABLISH DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS; PETER
KENYATTA VISITS MUSCAT

1. BEGIN UNCLASSIFIED. PETER KENYATTA, SON OF KENYA'S PRESIDENT,
VISITED OMAN MARCH 5-7. ACCORDING TO PRESS ACCOUNTS, HE BROUGHT
SPECIAL MESSAGE FOR SULTAN QABOOS. HE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN WELL RE-
CEIVED.

2. VISIT FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY ON HEELS OF MARCH 5 ANNOUNCEMENT
THAT KENYA AND OMAN HAD ESTABLISHED DIPLOMATIC RELATIONS AT NON-
RESIDENT AMBASSADOR LEVEL. END UNCLASSIFIED.

3. BEGIN CONFIDENTIAL. ON THE SURFACE, KENYATTA'S VISIT APPEARS
TO HAVE BEEN RELATIVELY INSUBSTANTIAL, AND INDEED THIS MIGHT BE THE
CASE. AT SAME TIME, RAISON D'ETRE FOR RELATIONS BETWEEN TWO
COUNTRIES PRESUMABLY IS RELATED TO STATUS OF UNDETERMINED NUMBER
OF ZANZIBARI AND OTHER EAST AFRICAN OMANIS (OR THOSE WHO ASPIRE TO
RECLAIMING OMANI CITIZENSHIP) WHO EITHER RESIDE IN OR HAVE
INTERESTS IN KENYA. IN THIS REGARD, OMANGOV QUIETLY HAS REVERSED
ITS PREVIOUS "OPEN ARMS" POLICY RE RETURN OF THESE NOT-SO-NATIVE
SONS. THUS POSSIBILITY EXISTS THAT SOME LOW-LEVEL CONTROVERSY
EXISTS BETWEEN MUSCAT AND NAIROBI CONCERNING TREATMENT OF
THESE PERSONS.

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4. COINCIDENTALLY, MUSCAT RUMOR MILL HAS BEEN BUZZING FOR SEVERAL WEEKS ABOUT "POLITICAL EXILE" OF ONE SALIM HAKIM WHO REPORTEDLY HAS BEEN POSTED AS OMANI RESIDENT CONSUL IN NAIROBI. HAKIM, OF ZANZIBARI ORIGIN, FORMERLY WAS OFFICER IN ROYAL OMAN POLICE. ALLEGEDLY HIS OUTSPOKEN CRITICISM OF SOME OMANGOV POLICIES LED TO HIS BEING POSTED ABROAD. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE ANY INFORMATION NAIROBI MIGHT DEVELOP ON HAKIM.
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